

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1453

ANSWERED ON:27.11.2002

ARTIFICIAL REPRODUCTIVE TECHNOLOGY CLINICS

RAM SINGH KASWAN;RAMDAS RUPALA GAVIT;SATYAVRAT CHATURVEDI;SUNDER LAL TIWARI

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government propose to recognize the A.R.T. Clinics;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) the reasons for recognising these clinics?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI A. RAJA)

(a)to(c): Assisted Reproductive Technology (ART) in our country is being provided by the private sector only. Many of these technologies require enormous technical expertise and infrastructure. The success rate of the procedure is below 30% under the best of circumstances and is expensive and tax the couple's endurance physically, emotionally and monetarily.

The Government has received reports of the mushrooming of ART Clinics where the services provided seem to be highly questionable. Many of these clinics do not have adequate trained manpower and infrastructure to deliver these highly sophisticated technologies. Further, some techniques, which are not universally accepted, are also being introduced such as for example the Round Spermatid Nuclear Injection (ROSNI), Pre-implantation Genetic Diagnosis (PGD) for gender selection of the embryo.

With a view to regulate and supervise these clinics and ensure patient safety, ICMR has recently released National Guidelines for Accreditation, Supervision and Regulation of ART Clinics in India. After receiving the views of all stakeholders, the guidelines will be finalized for implementation.